

REFERENCES AND REVIEWS

EVALUATION OF A SPECIFIC ANTISERUM FOR SERUM BETA LIPOPROTEIN ESTIMATIONS—L. M. Bergquist, V. P. Carroll, Jr., and R. L. Searcy. *Lancet*—Vol. 1:537 (March 11) 1961.

A commercially available specific antiserum provides efficient means for rapid and reproducible precipitation of human serum beta lipoproteins. Antiserum is produced by the immunization of goats with ultracentrifugally isolated human serum lipoproteins (density, 1.063 gm/ml). On glass slides, 0.06 ml. of serum are mixed with 0.16 ml. of antiserum. Serum-antiserum precipitates are measured in millimeters after centrifugal sedimentation in standardized capillary tubes. Completeness of precipitation was shown by comparing electrophoretic patterns before and after immunoprecipitation of serum. Alimentary lipemia was shown to have little effect on lipoprotein precipitate values. Low-density lipoprotein estimations compared well with 145 electrophoretic determinations of beta lipoprotein cholesterol. The immunochemical method may be valuable in detecting increased low-density lipoprotein levels in studies of large population groups.

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DISINFECTION OF BEDPANS—E. M. Darmady, K. E. A. Hughes, J. D. Jones, D. Prince, and P. Verdon. *J. Clin. Path.*—Vol. 14:66 (Jan.) 1961.

After it had been demonstrated that five different methods of cleansing bedpans were unsatisfactory, it occurred to the authors that a standard dish-washing machine could be adapted for the cleansing of bedpans. The following pro-

cedure was introduced. The solids were discharged into an open sluice or preferably into a sluicing machine fitted with a lavatory flush. Four pans are then transferred to a dish-washing machine, and the automatic cycle is switched on. Since the cycle lasts nine minutes, the nurse is available for other duties. Visual and bacteriologic examinations have shown that the machine produces superior and more reliable results than do other methods of cleansing bedpans.

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VITAMIN K-S (II) IN LIVER DISEASE—J. C. Hoak and J. R. Carter. *Arch. Int. Med.*—Vol. 107:715 (May) 1961.

Patients with severe liver disease and defective accelerator activity were given a new drug, vitamin K-S (II) [S-(2-methyl-1, 4-naphthoquinonoyl-3)- β mercaptopropionic acid]. Heretofore, there has been little to offer the patient with acquired Factors V and VII deficiencies except transfusion of blood or plasma. In 21 of 33 patients, this drug produced a good or excellent response as regards improvement of accelerator activity. Depressed plasma prothrombin levels did not improve. Bleeding stopped in all patients who had no other cause for bleeding than the coagulation defect. The drug was effective when given orally or intravenously. No toxic effects were noted.

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EXPERIMENTAL HYPERTENSION AND ATHEROSCLEROSIS—R. F. Rosenthal and R. M. O'Neal. *Arch. Path.*—Vol. 71:554 (May) 1961.

Previous studies have shown that evidence of pulmonary hypertension may be produced easily in experimental animals by intravenous embolization of the pulmonary circuit with a suspension of inert plastic beads. Likewise, cholesterol-induced atherosclerosis in the rabbit has been shown to affect the pulmonary vasculature as well as the aorta. In

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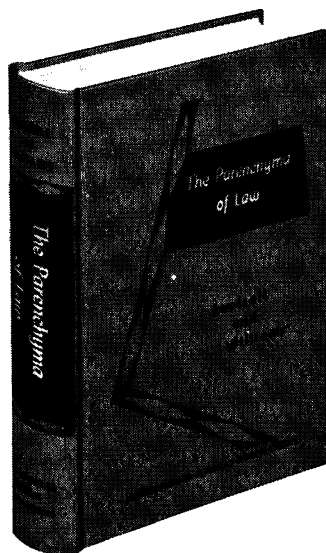
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